7/17/71

Dr. Cyril H. Wecht, Coroner
Alleghany County
542 Fourth Ave.,
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219

Dear Cyril,

Today's mail is heavy, important, and I'm too far behind in too many thing to go into detail.

By simply waiting about a month and writing a letter to the judge, carbon to Rhoads, I have gotten prompt capituation. They are keeping their in-court promise, the reason I told you that if on the principle of law I lost I actually won. The official mythology cannot survive what they have now promised to do promptly, if they do it properly.

So, I make this suggestion: let me go and see what they have done. If the work is satisfactory, I'll then get in touch again and let you pick a date that is okay for both you and McCollom. I will also see if a respected TV reporter, also in confidence, for I regard this as a valuable literary property, mostly already written, can go along at the same time. Then we can all go together. I'll make the date for the mutually-agreeable time. It is almost certain that I can go whenever the others can.

Meanwhile, I think that it would be a very good idea if you can ask McCollom to read those passages of the report dealing with the anterior neck wound and, if possible the relevent medical testimony. It is on this that I have focused. I already have in my possession a faked picture the FBI contrived to fix the Commission's hurried mind. Without checking, I think the more important medical testimony is Humes',Carrico's, Perry's, Shires' and possible Shaw and Gregory. For better understanding, aside from my new work in the two drafted parts of POST MORTEM, I think it would be helpful were he to read WHITEWASH , Chpter 13, perhaps also 12. If he has no time, then pp. 170ff, taking particular note of the ignored Shires' testimony cited on 174, that post-operative X-rays showed fragment of bullet in the chest after surgery and cleaning that may have been possible. How can an intact bullet fragemnt, and into so many pieces? This is the bullet allegedly causing the anterior neck wound, as you know, and my pictures of it are excellent and include the shell end. My purpose is so that McC will be adequately prepared to give us an expert opinion as a criminalist after he examines these other other pictures here and at the Archives (also access promised).

One of my unwelcome, but I feel unavoidable preoccupations has to do with an incredibly sophisticated threat to Senator McGovern, given up by the Secret Service as a nut letter. I do not doubt the man or men drafting it may be sick, but they are erudite, well-read, well-educated, subtle, elliptical, schooled in the arcane, etc. This may be nothing, but with another assassination rather clearly forecast, can I ignore it when asked to help not by the Secret Service? I have in strictest confidence asked a number of friends to help, in each case selecting because of kind of mind, training, experience, etc. Do you know anyone with a good intellect, intellectual interests, yet with the kind of scientific training whose help I can enlist? The author went far out of his way to pinpoint me (unknown as I was to the addressee), mailing the t ing on my birthday and beginning it, "Can Mr. Weisberg translate?".

I'll write or phone after I see the pictures, which I expect will be this coming week.

Sincerely,